

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SAM-01 OIC-02

FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 OFA-01 COME-00 EB-07 EPA-01

NSF-01 OES-03 /118 W

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P R 230710Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2475

ONFO RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 477

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3262

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, UNEP

SUBJECT: UNEP GC III, ITEM 11(A), REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION FUND

PROGRAM IN 1974, APRIL 21, 1975

1. IN CONNECTION SUBJECT REPORT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ISSUED AS CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER SUPPLEMENT TO COVER PROJECTS APPROVED BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 31 MARCH, 1975. UNDER HEADING QUOTE EDUCATION, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND INFORMATION UNQUOTE ED REPORTED PROJECT TITLED QUOTE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY FOR THE HAIFA AREA UNQUOTE. THIS PROJECT, WHICH SCHEDULED BE EXECUTED OVER 3-YEAR PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 1974-31 OCTOBER 1977, VALUED AT \$150,000, OF WHICH UNEP TO CONTRIBUTE \$75,000. FOR GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION PURPOSES, PROJECT IDENTIFIED AS QUOTE WESTERN ASIA UNQUOTE.

2. IN OTHERWISE ROUTINE DISCUSSION THIS ITEM, EGYPTIAN DEL
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QUESTIONED REGIONAL VALIDITY THIS PROJECT, ITS DURATION AND

SIZE OF UNEP COMMITMENT WHICH SEEMED OUT OF PROPORTION TO OTHER PROJECTS. CRITICISM OF PROJECT RATHER VAGUELY DIRECTED, ALTHOUGH AT NO REPEAT NO TIME DURING INTERVENTION DID EGYPTIAN DEL QUESTION RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO SEEK AND RECEIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM UNEP. IRAQI DEL, WHO RAPPOREUR OF COMMITTEE, BUT SPEAKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS IRAQI DEL, ECHOED EGYPTIAN INTERVENTION.

3. SECRETARIAT (FUND DIRECTOR BERTHOUD) IN RESPONSE POINTED OUT PROJECT NOT REPEAT NOT REGIONAL PROJECT BUT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WHICH HAD BEEN REQUESTED IN ACCORDANCE UNEP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND RESPONDED TO ON THAT BASIS, JUST AS IN CASE OF OTHER REQUESTS RECEIVED BY SECRETARIAT. THIS INSPIRED REJOINDER FROM IRAQI DEL THAT HIS COUNTRY HAD ALSO REQUESTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND HAD NOT HAD RESPONSE. WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIS COUNTRY'S REQUEST?

4. SOVIET DEL, SPEAKING IMMEDIATELY AFTER IRAQI DID NOT REPEAT NOT ADDRESS THIS ISSUE EVEN REMOTELY. IN FACT, SOVIET DEL NOTED WITH CONCERN FAILURE OF SECRETARIAT TO COMMIT PROJECTS IN 1974 ANYWHERE NEAR THE LEVEL OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES AND HOPED PERFORMANCE IN THIS REGARD WOULD IMPROVE. HE ALSO NOTED SIZEABLE RESOURCES APPEARED TO BE GOING INTO STUDIES, MEETINGS, SYMPOSIA, ETC. WHICH WERE "NON-PRODUCTIVE, AND HOPED THIS ALSO WOULD BE

CORRECTED.

5. CHAIRMAN SUBSEQUENTLY PROMPTED TO DRAW ROUTINE, CONSENSUS DECISION FOR RECOMMENDATION TO PLENARY WHICH MADE NO REPEAT NO REFERENCE TO TA ISSUE AND COMMITTEE TURNED TO NEXT ITEM OF AGENDA.

6. ONE HOUR LATER, AS CHAIRMAN WAS ON VERGE OF ADJOURNING SESSION, PRC DEL ASKED FOR FLOOR, AND, IN HIGHLY CONFUSED STATEMENT, SAID HE WANTED TO REFER TO CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER AND TO THE ITEM IN THAT PAPER ON THE IHHSF (I.E. INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION, WHICH COMPLETELY UNRELATED ISRAELI TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT). DEL ADDED "IN ISRAEL" AFTER PROMPTING FROM ASSISTANT WHICH CLEARLY HEARD OVER HEAD PHONES. PRC DEL CONTINUED BY SAYING QUOTE WHY IS THIS ONLY AGENCY

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(I.E. UNEP) PROJECT IN ISRAEL? THERE ARE MANY ARAB COUNTRIES IN THE AREA. WE DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS PROJECT AND THE CHINESE DELEGATION RESERVES ITS POSITION UNQUOTE. CHAIRMAN NOTED STATEMENT WOULD BE RECORDED AND ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

7. COMMENT: US DELEGATION NOTES THAT AT NO POINT IN EXCHANGE THIS ISSUE WAS THERE RAISED ANY QUESTION OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO REQUEST AND RECEIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM UNEP. DELEGATION

INCLINED BELIEVE EPISODE ORIGINATED IN EGYPTIAN MISAPPREHENSION
THAT HAIFA PROJECT WAS REGIONAL IN CHARACTER. EVEN SO DELE-
GATION RECOGNIZES WE MAY NOT BE OUT OF WOODS ON THIS ONE. WE
WILL, OF COURSE, REJECT ON THE RECORD ANY SUGGESTION THAT
ISRAEL, AS UIMEMBER IN GOOD STANDING, IS IN ANY WAY INELLIGIBLE
FOR TA FROM UNEP. WE ALSO INTENYPRIVATELY TO INFORM SECRE-
TARIAT THAT SHOULD SERIOUS EFFORTS BE MOUNTED TO CANCEL OR
OTHERWISE CURTAIL ISRAELI PROJECT, CONTINUED USEIPPORT OF UNEP
INCLUDING FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS, WILL BE JEOPARDIZED AND SUGGEST
SECRETARIAT TAKE SUCH STEPS AS NECESSARY TO DAMP DOWN ISSUE,
IF INDEED ONE EXISTS.
MARSHALL

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